

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

ACTION MINUTES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order

Chair Fieldman called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Committee members present:

Court, Ebel, Gutekanst, Hayuk, Salmon, Sweeney, and Chair Fieldman

Staff members present:

Administrative Services Director Schillinger
Management Analyst Pontecorvo

1. Adoption of the agenda.

MC Gutekanst moved and MC Hayuk seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Oral Communications for items not on the agenda.

There were no public comments under Oral Communications.

3. Polystyrene Ordinance follow-up.

Administrative Services Director Schillinger reported that he brought the Polystyrene issue to the City Council on April 1. The Council encouraged the Open Space and Ecology Committee to continue the process of vetting a polystyrene ordinance, including conducting outreach to members of the business community that would be most effected by the Ordinance. Committee members asked staff to compile a list of restaurants and businesses that deal with food, and to gather information from the Scavengers regarding which types of containers are recyclable or compostable. MC Gutekanst suggested sending a letter informing businesses that Brisbane is considering banning polystyrene food containers and that someone from OSEC would be coming to discuss this issue. An ad-hoc subcommittee was established to draft the letter and formulate survey questions. MC Gutekanst and MC Hayuk volunteered to serve on the subcommittee, and Chair Fieldman agreed to review the letter for her signature.

4. Rodenticide Resolution follow-up.

Chair Fieldman directed attention to the staff report and draft Resolution opposing the purchase and use of rat and mouse poisons deemed an unreasonable risk to children, pets and wildlife. The draft letter to the Department of Pesticide Regulation requests that DPR refuse to renew registration of rodenticide products that pose unreasonable risks and would be prohibited by the US EPA's Risk Mitigation Decision for Ten Rodenticides. Management Analyst Pontecorvo reported that the City of Brisbane has a strict Integrated Pest Management Policy and that no pesticides, including rodenticides, are applied in any public place. After discussion, MC Salmon moved and MC Ebel seconded to recommend that the City Council adopt the resolution and send the letter to Department of Pesticide Regulation opposing the hazardous rodenticides. The Committee also discussed doing outreach to the hardware store and MC Ebel agreed to contact Billy Del Chiaro.

5. City Council Items.

a. Brisbane Acres Acquisition

On March 18, the City Council adopted a resolution ratifying and approving the agreement for purchase of a parcel of open space in the Brisbane Acres known as "Lot" 98. In 2011, the City Council adopted a resolution rescinding Resolution 99-1 that had established a separate Open Space Fund. At that time, the Council also affirmed its willingness to consider expenditures of General Fund reserves for the acquisition of critical open space lands. The map in the agenda packet depicts the location of the City's latest acquisition of open space.

6. Other Committee Matters.

a. Election of Chair / Vice-Chair on May 8

Chair Fieldman said that she had agendaized this item but then realized that the Committee elects the Chair and Vice Chair at the May meeting. She explained what the positions entail and encouraged Committee members to consider taking on new leadership roles.

b. Habitat Restoration Day this Saturday

Management Analyst Pontecorvo announced that Brisbane's 10th Annual Habitat Restoration Day would be happening on Saturday April 13 at Costanos Canyon and invited everyone to participate. She brought flyers and posters for Committee members to distribute. MC Salmon added that there is a rich natural and cultural history in Costanos Canyon.

c. Community Education – No Deposit, No Return program/publicity

MC Salmon announced the screening of No Deposit, No Return on Sunday May 5 at 3:30 pm in the Community Meeting Room. She informed the Committee that Recology would be attending and that there would be a discussion with Dolores Gomez and others. MC Salmon prepared a draft flyer and asked for comments and suggestions. The Committee discussed adding new language to help market the event, and considered options and costs for refreshments. MC Pontecorvo noted that the event was announced on the blog and would be promoted on the signboard and in the CityNews. The Committee commended Community Education subcommittee members Salmon, Sweeney and Ebel for their work planning this event.

d. Sustainability Committee update

Administrative Services Director Schillinger reported that staff would be bringing the Sustainability Goals for the Baylands to the City Council on April 15. The Council would

likely refer the document back to the Sustainability Committee to begin working on the next sections of the plan, such as developing Key Performance Indicators. Mr. Schillinger noted that the comments made by the Open Space and Ecology Committee had been very helpful and largely incorporated into the document.

e. Green Building Ordinance update

Management Analyst Pontecorvo reported on the process for updating the Green Building Ordinance. She explained that since the last meeting of the Planning Commission / Open Space and Ecology joint subcommittee, staff has solicited feedback from the professional building community on the proposed changes to the ordinance. The deadline for comments was April 1. The City Attorney is also in the process of reviewing the draft ordinance. The next steps may include reconvening the joint subcommittee, bringing the draft ordinance to the full Planning Commission and OSEC for review, and later to the City Council for consideration.

f. CAG report

MC Gutekanst reported that at the last CAG meeting, there were three people from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), as well as a presentation from the Committee for Renewable Energy in the Baylands (CREBL). A presentation by Recology is scheduled for the next CAG meeting. MC Gutekanst expressed concerns that there had been discussion about Recology cancelling the meeting, but she confirmed that they will be there on Tuesday April 16 at 7:00 pm in the Community Center. She invited everyone to attend. MC Salmon thanked the CAG for its excellent work.

g. Recruiting volunteers for litter pick-up

Chair Fieldman stated that she agendaized this item because of the excessive litter that has accumulated around town since former resident John Quilter moved away. She solicited ideas from the Committee for recruiting volunteers to ride the special bicycle that the City purchased several years ago to collect litter. The Committee considered outreach, such as writing an article for the Star and Luminary. MC Gutekanst suggested approaching some of the businesses in Crocker Industrial Park since the litter overflows on to the Crocker Park Trail. MC Court said that it is difficult for businesses to get dumpsters with lids from South San Francisco Scavengers. The Committee discussed working with the Chamber of Commerce to consider an Adopt A Street program whereby businesses could receive recognition for trash removal in designated areas, such as Bayshore Blvd, Tunnel Rd, Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, and the Crocker Park Trail. MC Gutekanst made a motion, seconded by MC Ebel to recommend that Brisbane create an Adopt a Street program. Staff agreed to follow up and report back to the Committee.

h. DEIR update

Administrative Services Director Schillinger said that there is no information regarding the publication date of the Baylands Draft Environmental Impact Report.

i. Landscape Maintenance and Habitat in Northeast Ridge

MC Salmon expressed concerns that the landscape maintenance manual is inadequate and does not specify the height of trees that may impede the flight of butterflies. She added that there needs to be more oversight of development terms and agreements. Administrative Services Director Schillinger recommended going to the City Council with a list of

concerns about the maintenance of private property in the Northeast Ridge. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Schillinger reiterated that while these issues are very important, they fall outside of the purview of the Committee, and would be more appropriate to raise with Council. MC Salmon, Sweeny, and Gutekanst expressed interest in reading the landscape manual and considering how to move forward.

7. Approval of minutes: March 13, 2013.

MC Sweeney moved to approve the minutes of March 13, 2013, seconded by MC Hayuk. The motion passed unanimously. MC Salmon asked to update the minutes on the City website and inquired about posting videos of the meetings.

8. Next meeting date.

The next meeting date was set for May 8, 2013.

9. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.